

Immigration - 1917

KAFFIR BOY CAN'T LAND HERE

AFRICAN BOY SENT HERE TO GET EDUCATION HAS TO BE SENT BACK SAY BOSTON IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS - COLORED MAN HERE WAITING TO ADOPT HIM - GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVE SEES BOYS - MRS. HENRIETTA PETERS, WHO SPEAKS AT BOSTON LITERARY MONDAY NIGHT, TO INVESTIGATE.

The Guardian 6/23/17
Jericho Spueta, the ward of an African chief, arrived here Tuesday from the Gold Coast as a cabin boy aboard the four-masted schooner Estelle Krieger, whose captain intended to put him in school in this country, but this will not be permitted by immigration officials, and the boy will be sent back to the jungle. Capt. Charles W. Gilbert of the Krieger took a fancy to the youngster when he went on the ship looking for a job, and when the skipper asked the lad if he wanted to go to America and be educated, answered in his native tongue that he was "tickled to death." So the consent of the boy's guardian—the chief of a powerful tribe far in the interior—was obtained and the journey began.

The schooner put into Port Arthur, Tex., and federal officials of the immigration service declared that the laws regarding the admission of minors under 16 into the country made it impossible to land the youngster in America. Tuesday, Jericho, over on the Krieger at her East Boston dock, appeared greatly disappointed at the government, though he did not fully understand the reasons. Immigration Inspector Weiss gave him a new 10-cent piece and the young "chief" was so pleased at the gift that he turned several hand springs in return.

Jericho is 11 years old and has several tattoo marks in his forehead, such as distinguish persons of high degree among the tribes. Since first boarding the Grieger, last September, the boy has learned English and can speak it fairly well.

One of the stipulations in the agreement with the chief was that the boy should be returned to Africa on the completion of his schooling here. He will have to go back on the same vessel, but Capt. Gilbert will not accompany him. The former will take command of the schooner Margaret Thomas and make a trip to South America.

Move to Save Native Boy.

The Guardian office was visited by a young Colored woman whose father is willing to adopt the boy so he can stay here. A Guardian representative went with her to the Boston Immigration station and saw the young-

ster. He appears to be a bright boy. The Bravas are held as illiterates under the new literacy law, not being able to read in their own language. Mrs. Henrietta Peters, who is now at home from her missionary station in Liberia, Africa, will visit the boy. She addresses the Boston Literary in the 12th Baptist church Monday night on these Africans.

BRAVAS REFUSE

The Guardian 6/23/17
FARM WORK

COLORED ALIENS DECIDE TO STAY IN DETENTION CAMP—REFUSE TO LAND FOR MONTHS TO DO FARM WORK—CAME HERE TO WORK IN MUNITIONS FACTORIES AT GOOD WAGES.

Most of the 240 Portugese subjects from the Island of Brava who have been held for the past three weeks at the immigration station have refused to accept temporary liberty for six months to work on farms. They set out for this country to secure jobs in the munitions factories in Connecticut and are going to let Uncle Sam support them as detained aliens until they can be allowed to land unrestricted or are deported.

Won't Be Farmers.

They arrived at New Bedford since the Burnett immigration bill with its literacy test became law. They failed to pass the test. The local detention pen is now overcrowded with Bravas and 300 other aliens held when a liner arrived Friday. The officials thought that by releasing the Portugese for six months they could be of great help as farm laborers. Their services were especially desired by the cranberry growers on Cape Cod. The government cannot insist on their taking jobs on farms at \$1.75 a day and the Bravas declare they want the munition factory jobs they started here to get or nothing. They can easily secure \$2.50 to \$3 a day in Connecticut, they claim. The officials are in a dilemma as to what they will do with the aliens.

U. S. WAIVES LITERACY

TEST TO LAND NEGROES.

DETAINED BRAVAS AT BOSTON IMMIGRATION BUREAU RELEASED FOR WORK ON FARMS IN VIEW OF WAR NEEDS.

Uncle Sam's determination to utilize the services of every available person in this country during the war was shown when local immigration officials received telegraphic orders from Washington to "land temporarily" 142 of the 240 detained Cape Verde Island Negroes for work on farms. "Expedite the food supply" is the general slogan. *m.w.s.*

It is expected that the other Negroes held at the station will be ordered released also when their cases are reported. About five more schooner loads of the Bravas are due at New Bedford.

U. S. TO DEPORT BRAVA NEGROES.

The Guardian 6/23/17
Government Reverses Decision and May Impose Heavy Fines.

Reversing the decision to land the Brava Negroes from the Cape Verde Islands on condition that they accept employment on New England farms, the Department of Labor yesterday ordered Acting Commissioner Hurley to deport the entire 300 who have been held for three weeks at the immigration station at Long wharf.